

due in no small part to the new management structure he instituted, merging the Housing and Transit Police Department with the NYPD. In 1996, upon his departure from the NYPD, then-Chief Timoney had accrued over 65 Department Medals, including the prestigious Medal of Valor.

After retiring from the NYPD, John entered the world of private security consulting, and offered his expertise and advice to law enforcement authorities all across the country and around the world. He served as Vice Chairman of the Irish Commission on Domestic Violence, and he advised Britain's Patton Commission, which focused on policing Northern Ireland.

In March of 1998, Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell appointed John Commissioner of the Philadelphia Police Department. His tenure in that position was marked by the same commitment to excellence and improvement which characterized his career in New York. John brought the innovative Compstat system to Philadelphia, and helped to reinvigorate the department. Running a department of 7,000 officers and 900 civilian employees is no easy task, and Commissioner Timoney's efforts to modernize the department have been rewarded by a decline in Philadelphia's crime rate.

While I thank John profusely for what he has done to make the streets safer for millions of New Yorkers and Philadelphians, I rise today for another reason: to thank Commissioner Timoney for the lessons that his expertise and experience have taught the entirety of the law enforcement community. While his achievements as a cop on the beat deserve our thanks, I want to make special mention of the contribution he has made to our understanding of how police departments can better employ their resources to combat crime across the country.

Commissioner Timoney's career in the upper echelons of law enforcement have been marked by two major paradigm shifts. Without them, law enforcement would not be nearly as successful. And because Commissioner Timoney's work represents what I think is the best of law enforcement—because I believe that we at the Federal level ought to encourage and promote police departments around the nation to promote just this kind of progress—I want to draw special attention to it.

First, Commissioner Timoney was at the forefront of efforts to get both the New York and Philadelphia Police Departments to embrace Compstat, a high-tech system which allows police departments to monitor and analyze crime data better, empowering them to re-deploy resources as needed. Compstat was revolutionary policing in both New York and Philadelphia, contributing to dramatic crime reductions in both cities.

Second, Commissioner Timoney has been an outspoken proponent of community policing, which was an integral portion of 1994's crime bill. The Commissioner has set a high standard in the practice of policing multi-ethnic and multi-racial communities by empowering precinct captains and other officers in local areas to develop constructive relationships with members of the communities they police. I've always believed that the more integrated cops are with the communities they serve the better. Commissioner Timoney has lived that principle, and the great accomplishments of his career are due in no small part to his promotion of community policing.

I am grateful to be able to call John Timoney a friend. The people of Philadelphia will miss his law enforcement expertise, the police officers of his department will miss his extraordinary leadership, and the nation's law enforcement executives will lose one of their brightest lights. Good luck in your future endeavors John. A grateful and safer nation thanks you for your service.

WHISPERS OF LIBERTY

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I would like to take a minute to bring to the attention of this great body the words of Rachel Bennett. Rachel is a 13-year old constituent who has written "Whispers of Liberty," a moving poem about the events of September 11. These terrorist attacks had a profoundly sobering effect on most of the world. As Americans we were forcefully reminded of the ideals and principles which unite us as a nation. I have read and heard many explain the significance and aftermath of September 11, but few have done so as well as Rachel. She poignantly reminds us of the dreams that were shattered by the terrorists, while at the same time she reminds us of the values and ideas that have rallied Americans to help one another deal with these tragedies. I would like to read this poem for the record:

WHISPERS OF LIBERTY (By Rachel Bennett)

How could a moment
So change everything?
A speechless nation
Cried out in despair
In unison as one.
How could in a moment
So many lives be put out,
Like a field of flowers
Closing in the mid of summer
Never to bloom again?
And in that moment,
How many chances
Of being a grandfather,
A husband, a mother
Of knowing the joys
Of life and love
Be gone?
Like a candle
Doused with tears of despair,
Our nation wept

For the twin brothers
Who now lie in a
Silent reverie
As two lions
Suddenly tamed
A ghastly graveyard
Of pride and greatness.
Yet buried within
The solid and proud
Red, white, and blue
Of American pride.
A stoic symbol
Of freedom and unity
In a world
Of stricken terror.
Its red, the blood of
The innocent whose
Lives were stolen from them;
Its white,
Purity and strength;
And its blue, the melancholy tears
Of sadness.
These bands of red
And white
Bring us together
As one.
A single
Voice declaring freedom
And a fearless life
For all the world.
Strength resonating
From the richness
Of the colors
Bind us together
In a single dance
Of peace and
A single whispered word—
Liberty.

WILLIAMSON, WEST VIRGINIA

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I rise today to express my deepest gratitude to and admiration for the citizens of Williamson in Mingo County, West Virginia for their generosity and sacrifice on behalf of others. Their donation of approximately \$26,000 to the "Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund," to aid the children of those lost in the terrorist attacks on our country over three months ago, is symbolic of the tremendous compassion and unity of the American people. I would like to thank the citizens of Williamson on behalf of all the families who will be able to take advantage of this scholarship fund. They have reached deep into their hearts and pockets to send the children affected by the September 11 attacks a truly beautiful gift.

Earlier this month, I met with Williamson Mayor Estil "Breezy" Bevins, Fire Chief Grover "Curt" Phillips and Police Chief Roby Pope when they presented \$26,000 in donations in Senator BYRD's office. Shortly after September 11, the City Council voted to donate \$5,000 to the victims of the attacks on the World Trade Center. Over \$15,000 was collected on September 14 through a "boot drive" where police officers, firefighters and others took to the streets to stop cars to collect money. As I told Mayor Bevins, Williamson's tremendous efforts and energy symbolize the spirit of "small-Town America."

I suggested that the town consider sending their donations to the "Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund," which former President Clinton and former Majority Leader Bob Dole chair together. The Fund provides educational assistance for the children and spouses of those killed or permanently disabled in the terrorist attacks of September 11. I would like to thank my friend and colleague Senator ROCKEFELLER for contacting my office to seek guidance on directing the donations. I am very grateful to Senators BYRD and ROCKEFELLER for joining me in receiving the people of Williamson's donation earlier this month.

This small town in southern West Virginia, thousands of miles away from the Twin Towers, has experienced its own share of adversity, including a devastating flood in 1977. Perhaps Williamson's struggle to overcome its own set of hurdles has made the citizens there especially sympathetic to the tremendous obstacles that the people of New York City are facing. At the same time as Williamson has reached out to those affected by the terrorist attacks in New York City, they are working to tackle financial difficulties in their own backyard and I applaud their efforts. An aggressive economic development effort is underway to secure a wood products park, most aquaculture and a stronger market for coal.

Many Americans have felt a personal need in their everyday lives to reach out to their neighbors, coworkers or even strangers to offer assistance, both large and small. We saw it in New York with people standing in line for hours to donate blood, and with families donating food to rescue workers who were toiling around the clock, or companies who wanted to contribute funding and resources. "What can I do to help?" is a common, if not universal refrain that Americans have spoken, or thought quietly to themselves, since the attacks. The people of Williamson have matched those noble words with action, and New Yorkers thank them from the bottom of our hearts for their outpouring of compassion.

Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." During this time of tremendous grief and anxiety that's being felt in all corners of the world, the citizens of Williamson efforts to ensure that children who have been affected by these terrible attacks are not forgotten will provide comfort to many and inspiration for us all.

RETIREMENT OF U.S. ATTORNEY JAMES TUCKER

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, one of the best and most respected attorneys to have ever served in our State as an assistant U.S. Attorney is retiring. James Tucker has served the U.S. De-

partment of Justice in the Southern District of Mississippi for 30 years.

I have an enormous amount of respect and appreciation for the way James Tucker has carried out the important responsibilities of his job. He was a true professional in every respect. He was completely honest and trustworthy, and he was tenacious in bringing to justice those who violated the laws of the United States.

I commend him for a job well done and wish him much continued success and satisfaction in the years ahead.

I ask unanimous consent that an article from the Clarion Ledger of December 17, highlighting his illustrious career be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TOP CORRUPTION FIGHTER LEAVING POST

(By Jerry Mitchell)

Mississippi's top corruption fighter over the past 30 years—Assistant U.S. Attorney James Tucker—is leaving the U.S. attorney's office to go into private practice.

"If you could combine honor, integrity, courage and expertise in the same person, what you'd have is James Tucker," Attorney General Mike Moore said "they don't make 'em that way anymore. He is the ultimate professional."

Jan. 3 will mark Tucker's last day of work at the U.S. attorney's office, where he has worked since 1971. After that, he'll join the Butler Snow law firm in Jackson, where he'll be part of the litigation division.

Tucker said he is sad to be leaving on one hand but is enthused about his new job. "After 30 years with the Department of Justice, it hurts a little to cut the string, but I'm looking forward to a challenging new career."

A no-nonsense retired Naval Reserve officer, Tucker has shunned the limelight, despite taking on very public prosecutions of Mississippi public officials, including Operation Pretense, which led to convictions of 43 county supervisors and 11 vendors on corruption charges.

His long list of those prosecuted has included members of the Mississippi Senate, the Highway Commission, the Public Service Commission and the Jackson City Council.

His work also helped put former Biloxi Mayor Pete Halat behind bars on federal charges in connection with the 1987 killing of Halat's former law partner, Vincent Sherry and his wife, Margaret.

"I've always had strong feelings about public officials violating the trust," Tucker said. "I always felt if I had the power to right those kinds of wrongs, I ought to do it."

In 1983 and 1998, the Provine High School graduate received the highest award an assistant U.S. attorney can receive from the Justice Department—the Superior Performance Award.

"That's one of my great honors," Tucker said, "winning that award twice."

Perhaps better than an award was the comment he said he received the other day from a current county supervisor: "He said, 'You don't realize it, but what y'all did in Pretense has helped us honest supervisors for years and years and will for years to come. Because of that, we can threaten people with another Pretense if they fool around (with corruption).'"

Moore credited Tucker with cleaning up corruption in Mississippi: "He's helped return integrity to public office."

Tucker's expertise has helped pave the way for many other lawyers, including Moore, who first go to know Tucker when as a district attorney in Pascagoula he pursued corruption cases against local supervisors.

"He really helped me through those tough times, and he's continued to be my friend," Moore said. "He was a mentor to me."

Defense lawyer John Colette of Jackson said what makes Tucker special is his ability to remain calm, even amidst a storm, such as during the 1990 trial of Newton Alfred Winn, convicted in connection with the disappearance of Jackson socialite Annie Laurie Hearin.

But that calmness belies a quiet ruthlessness, he said.

As someone has remarked, Colette said, Tucker is the kind of prosecutor who slits the throat of a defense lawyer, who doesn't realize it until his head is in his lap.

Now that Tucker's gone, he joked, "I'm going to start trying all my cases in federal court."

What may say the most about Tucker is that he has the admiration of not only the defense bar, but judges as well, Colette said.

"He's probably the most competent prosecutor I ever heard," said U.S. District Judge William H. Barbour Jr. "The district was lucky to have him for so many years."

Even as Mississippi has changed U.S. attorneys in the Southern District, Tucker has remained as the chief of the criminal division.

Former U.S. Attorney Brad Pigott said he relied on Tucker during his tenure.

"He's an ideal public servant," Pigott said. "He's personally modest and quiet. I've spent some time with him in the foxhole. I can vouch for his integrity in every way. He deserves a very wonderful reputation."

Defense lawyers say Tucker helped provide continuity to the sometimes revolving door of the U.S. attorney's office, serving once as interim U.S. attorney.

"Many people, including me, felt that with him there, there was somebody to talk to who would listen," said defense lawyer Tom Royals of Jackson.

"It's a real loss to our justice system to see James Tucker leave," said defense lawyer Dennis Sweet of Jackson. "He's a tremendous lawyer, and he's been tremendously fair. I just hope whoever replaces him does as good a job for the U.S. attorney's office as he has."

Current U.S. Attorney Dunn Lampton said he is certainly going to miss Tucker. "He's an institution," Lampton said. "He knows more off the top of his head than you can find out doing research in books."

Because of Tucker, Lampton said he never worried about the criminal side of his office.

Now he'll have to find a replacement, which he'll probably choose from within his office, he said. "We'll all have to work together to take up the slack."

Those outside legal circles also praise Tucker.

"There was a time when James Tucker was the only defense standing between us and total corruption in Mississippi," said veteran journalist Bill Minor, who wrote about Tucker in his new book, *Eyes on Mississippi: A Fifty-Year Chronicle of Change*. "In my estimation, he ranks among the true heroes that I've known over my 54-year career."

Former Public Safety Commissioner and FBI agent Jim Ingram said Tucker will be sorely missed by all of Mississippi. "Almost all of us can be replaced. He can't."